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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

18 FEB 1993

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Docket - File

Rm. 222

POLICY & PLANNING
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Charles E. Grassley
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Grassley:

This is in reply to your letter of January 25, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Mike Wilson, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

Mr. Wilson is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

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List A B C D E

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituent's concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your constituent to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,

Dorothy H. Baker
for

Ralph A. Haller
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:

Notice

Order

Discussion paper

cc:

Chief, PRBureau

Chief, LM&M Divison

Docket Files, Room 222

P&P Branch File (Pink)

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CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
02/08/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300441	02/08/93	01/25/93	02/19/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Charles E Grassley	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Mike Wilson	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB <i>mm</i>			
5-10-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/08/93			

REMARKS: reply atn: Dawn Latham

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PRIVATE MAIL ROOM

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

PRB
92-235-
441

January 25, 1993

Linda Townsend-Solheim
Director, Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 857
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Linda:

Enclosed please find a letter from Mike Wilson regarding the ruling that would affect the frequencies assigned to model aircraft, cars and boats.

I would appreciate any assistance you could provide pertaining to this matter. Please mark your return correspondence to the attention of Dawn Latham when responding to my office.

Thank you for your attention to my request.

Sincerely,

Chuck Grassley
Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator

CEG/dl
Enclosure

RECEIVED
FEB 10 2 04 PM '93
IN A
PRIVATE
FILE

January, 18, 1993

The Honorable: Charles E. Grassly
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator, Grassley:

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The preceding is PR Docket 92-235. The proceeding letter I wish to submit in regard to the proposed new rule.

I have been interested in Aviation ever since I was a little boy. I am very active in the local club whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled airplanes." Please understand that many of these planes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 to 40 pounds, so we are not talking about some little airplane that you buy in a toy store, many of these planes require hundreds of hours to build. And cost in to the thousands of dollars, to build and maintain. We also put on many local shows which make money for the community. And in addition many charity shows.

If PR Docket 92-235 is Adopted, The new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model aircraft, car, and boat use. And this will also greatly increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that if the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control operations of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.. To understand this more clearly, Each plane must operate on a separate frequency, when in operation, you cannot have 2 planes operating at the same time, on the same channel! Now please picture in you mind, Our club field,, nice open wide area which we rent every year just for this activity.

And 50 to 60 people with 3 airplanes each with them... Each one is more than likely on a different channel. And on this nice day every one once to fly there plane, but there would be only 19 channels because of the new rule that has taken affect, We had to take turns before but now its impossible to fly, and if we did our \$2.000 dollar Airplane might crash, because someone in the area had to call home on there mobile phone.. No way would I risk it.....

When we fly are radio controlled airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies that we currently have. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the the remaining frequencies will be congested and unsafe.

Please understand that as I stated above, these are not kids toys, They are very expensive to build, And are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference cause the operator to lose control of the craft. I personally own Jet radio control aircraft that exceeds 165 mph. and are the size of a small car. I also have 18 of these radios and about \$20,000 dollars invested in this sport.

We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate, WE NEED the use of our full complement of radio Frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I feel it is unfair of the FCC to seek improvement of the land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers.

The FCC may not think that we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our equipment. Many of us are Doctors, layers, Programmers, and even law makers and palliations. So were are not some left wing concern. And most of all we are voters, And I feel that if this is put in to effect, as do others that I have talked to we will know next time who not to vote for.. Please keep in mind there are thousands of us litterly, and the sport grows more, and more each day. There are 17 different magazines on the book shelf each month devoted just to Aero Modeling. This might give you an idea of the numbers of people this will affect. Not to menschen the small business that many radio control modelers support buying there products. Many of them will go out of business due to the fact that, many will quit the sport and or hobby if this rule is put in to affect. Many will be unwilling to take the chance of being suited if there plane hits some one, And many will not be able to afford to buy new equipment if it is even possible, with ranges so close. My self I know allot about electronics, and I don't see away with the bands so close that there would not be big, big trouble the first day it is in effect.

I feel that to all who read this letter, there are many things you need to consider before you pass this rule.

1. If someone gets hurt, What is the FCC, and the government officials going to due when a law suite is filed against them?
2. There are many,many other radio control bands they could use that would not bother the radio control operators.
3. This rule will put many business out of business.
4. Many events Such as The Byron Show Striking back, which use to be in Ida Grove Iowa, and in 1993 Was to take Place in Ankeny Iowa at a new airport which is being built there, In fact the hole city of Ankeny, in Des Moines Iowa were banking allot of money on us to bring the show there in 1993,many many business, Hotels, resraunts etc.. Where hoping to make lots of money for the city, I mean this event dose bring people from all over the world,, last year to the tune of 300,000 in one week..... Thats alot of money being spent. But none of this will happen if this is put in to effect. To have shows which in turn bring money to the cites government etc... You need one thing.... And That is PILOTS>>!!!!!! If you don't have them, If they can't fly them,and practice with them Radio Controlled Airplanes, Many, Many days of the year,there won't be any shows.
Because of this rule they want to put in to effect, There won't be any show's any were in the U.S.A.

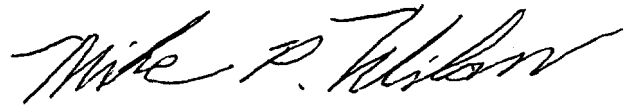
You see these planes are not something you can build and fly if you are new and have never done it.. It takes months and years of practice and flying to be any good at it.. In fact it takes on an average 6 months for a beginner just to learn how to take one off and land it.. And were talking just about a Trainer plane.. So know you can't just find anyone to fly in you shows. You can try but it won't work.. You need instructors to teach them how..

4. Insurance cost to operators will be so high that no one could afford to fly them...
5. This hobby provides many, many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people just like you and I..... And it contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry,, Many radio control pilots fly Full Scale planes as well, We often use radio control aircraft as a test beds for New full scale aircraft.
6. If this proposed PR Docket 92-235 is put in to effect it will devastate Many, Many, Aircraft hobbies, and Many business which thrive on the business of the aircraft modelers. it will push them in some cases out of the hobby they love, and in others it will push them out of there homes.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by
"NOT" allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the
72-76 MHz band. PLEASE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

THANKS VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND
CONSIDERATION.....

Sincerely: MR. Mike D. Wilson
(R/C Pilot)
(Full Scale Pilot)
(ComputerProgrammer)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike P. Wilson".

Contact address:

Mr. Mike D. Wilson
3015 East 7th St.
Des Moines Iowa, 50316
Ph. 515-266-5364